

Message Text

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R 122013Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES AGREEMENT: FERROUS METALLURGY

REF.: A) MOSCOW 4720, B) STATE 31138

FOR SCI COUNSELOR

1. USDEL WILL ARRIVE MOSCOW MAY 5 AT 5:25 PM ON SU-581 FROM LONDON. ROGER M. WOLCOTT, VICE-PRESIDENT-OPERATIONS, JONES AND LAUGHLIN STEEL CORPORATION HAS BEEN PLACED ON DELEGATION REPLACING T. A. CLEARY, JR.
2. US SPECIALISTS RETAIN STRONG DESIRE TO VISIT MAGNITO-GORSK. THEIR INTEREST CENTERS ON TIN PLATING OPERATIONS AND THEY REITERATE PROPOSAL FOR VISIT, EVEN IF FINISHING OPERATIONS IN ALUMINIZING AND PLASTIC COATING ARE NOT LOCATED THERE. THREE US SPECIALISTS WOULD MAKE MAGNITO-GORSK JOURNEY WITH REST OF DELEGATION GOING TO CHEREPOVETS AS PROPOSED REFTEL B.
3. SINCE IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT DELEGATION WILL NOT SEE PRODUCTION OF PLASTIC COATED STEEL EVEN IF THEY GET TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAGNITOGORSK, WE PROPOSE THAT VISIT TO ZAPOROZHSTAL' PLANT

BE REINSTATED SO THEY CAN SEE THIS PRODUCTION LINE WHOSE EXISTENCE WAS REPORTED IN SOVIET PRESS IN 1973.

4. FYI: WE UNDERSTAND THAT TIN PLATING OPERATION IN MAGNITOGORSK IS LARGEST AND MOST UP-TO-DATE IN USSR. WE NOW DOUBT WHETHER ALUMINIZING AND PLASTIC COATING OPERATIONS, WHOSE DEVELOPMENT WAS MENTIONED IN 1972 FIVE YEAR PLAN OF MIN FERROUS METALLURGY, ARE OPERATIONAL, BUT THESE SUBJECTS ARE OF SECONDARY INTEREST TO DELEGATION. IF MAGNITOGORSK VISIT REJECTED, EMBASSY COULD THEN REQUEST THAT DURING VISIT TO ZAPOROZHIE STEEL WORKS DELEGATION OBSERVE TIN PLATING OPERATIONS. THIS IS OLDER AND SMALLER OPERATION THAN THAT IN MAGNITOGORSK BUT IT IS ONE OF MOST IMPORTANT IN USSR.

5. AS SOON AS ITINERARY QUESTION RESOLVED WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS OBTAIN FINAL PROGRAM.

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